

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
Oyster Closure in Portions of Tangier Sound (Somerset County) — Effective 9/19/2019

WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces that the portions of Tangier Sound in Somerset County described below are closed to all shellfish harvest effective September 19, 2019 through and including December 1, 2019.

AREAS CLOSED

1. That portion of Public Shellfish Fishery Area (PSFA) 41, which contains a portion of Halls Point bar and a portion of Haines bar, that lies within Somerset County and is located south of the channel, described as:

All of the waters of the area enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°11.438' N and Long. 75°57.149' W; then running 287° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.686' N and Long. 75°58.206' W; then running 49° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.412' N and Long. 75°57.159' W; then running 92° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.390' N and Long. 75°56.495' W; then running 103° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.362' N and Long. 75°56.341' W; then running 143° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.941' N and Long. 75°55.943' W; then running 242° True to the point of beginning.

2. Public Shellfish Fishery Area (PSFA) 43, which contains a portion of Haines bar, (NOB 29-8): Tangier Sound

All of the waters of the area enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°10.051' N and Long. 75°58.534' W; then running 9° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.686' N and Long. 75°58.206' W; then running 107° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°11.438' N and Long. 75°57.149' W; then running 206° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°10.140' N and Long. 75°57.944' W; then running 259° True to the point of beginning.

PURPOSE OF THIS CLOSURE

This closure is necessary due to concerns about small oysters and slow growth of the oysters in the two specified areas. By delaying the opening of these areas, smaller oysters will be given additional time to reach market size. This closure was requested by the Somerset County Oyster Committee.

WHO THIS NOTICE AFFECTS

This closure applies to all individuals who catch oysters or clams recreationally or commercially.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The closure is effective at 12:01 a.m. September 19, 2019 and will remain in effect through and including December 1, 2019. The two areas of Tangier Sound delineated in this notice shall reopen for shellfish harvest without further notice on December 2, 2019.

AUTHORITY

Natural Resources Article, §4-215, Annotated Code of Maryland
Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.04.11G

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Fishing and Boating Services at 410-260-8302.

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio
Secretary of Natural Resources